

# THE KOREAN REPOSITORY.

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JUNE, 1897.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHIE CORÉENNE.\*

**W**E congratulate the author, M. Courant, upon the completion, in three large volumes, of this important work on Korean Bibliography. They form the 18th, 19th and 20th volumes of the third series of the publications of the French School of Living Oriental Languages and contain, according to the title-page, "The nomenclature of the works published in that country [Korea] up to 1890, as well as the description and analysis in detail of the principal of these works."

The "Bibliography" is divided into nine books, of which the first volume contains four, the second, two, and the third three. The first also contains a short preface, an introduction, which runs to 171 pages, and a note of nine pages on the system of transcription employed. Scattered throughout the work are numerous woodcuts, some illustrating features of Korean life, art, manners and customs and others reproducing specimen pages of different works in the Chinese character and the native

\* *Bibliographie Coréenne.* Tableau Littéraire de la Corée contenant la nomenclature des ouvrages publiés dans ce pays jus-qu'en 1890, ainsi que la description et l'analyse détaillées des principaux d'entre ces ouvrages.—Par MAURICE COURANT, Interprète de la Légation de France à Tokyo. Paris: Ernest Leroux, Editeur Libraire de la Société Asiatique de l'Ecole des Langues Orientales Vivantes, Etc. 28, Rue Bonaparte. 1895.

script. There are also some interesting maps, drawn from the Eastern stand-point. The nine books just referred to are as follows:—

- I. Teaching.
- II. Study of Languages.
- III. Confucianism.
- IV. Literature.
- V. Manners and Customs.
- VI. History and Geography.
- VII. Sciences and Arts.
- VIII. Religion.
- IX. International Relations.

The object and scope of this most interesting and valuable work is best described by the author himself in the preface to the first volume.

In the work, he says, which I to-day present to the public I have endeavoured to give an idea of the Korean book, as well of its exterior as of its contents. A purely bibliographical study would, in truth, have been very dry, applied to a literature which up to this time has been almost totally ignored and the analysis of the works without the description of the appearance of the books would have lost much in precision and interest. It has appeared to me impossible to separate the one from the other. I have been further led by the rarity of the existing works relative to Korea, to give in a large number of the notices, hints upon the geography, the history, the manners, the literature properly so-called, and the philosophy of this country. These particulars cannot be found elsewhere, and I hope they will not appear out of place here. Furthermore, this peninsula, so long outside of European consideration, at this time, much against her will, draws attention upon herself by her interior difficulties and by the competition which surrounds her. Perhaps also, after having glanced over these volumes, it will be recognized that she is worthy of an interest of another kind on account of the special part she has played in the civilization of the Far East.

The Introduction begins by noting the general ignorance of Korean literature existing even among old residents and those who have studied the language and are in frequent communication with the natives and inquires "What is the reason of so singular a fact?" In attempting to answer this query the author gives a minute description of the shops in which books are to be found and of the books themselves, their appearance, size, quality of paper, method of binding, printing, &c. The common works are mostly in Korean character and their price very low, no often exceeding ten cash. In the mean appearance of these books, the only ones to be seen outside the Capital, the author finds the explanation of the fact above alluded to, which is the more likely as the books of a superior class to be found in Seoul are invariably printed in Chinese characters and therefore hastily assumed to be of Chinese origin. A slight



examination only is necessary, however, to show that out of ten of these supposedly Chinese books, eight or nine have been printed in Korea.

A good description is given of the quarter of the town, near the Bell Tower, where shops for the sale of better class books are found.

Usually these finely got up books form the object of a special trade and one does not find them mixed up with tobacco-pouches and head-bands. The book-shops are all gathered together towards the centre of the town, in the broad street which begins at the Bell Tower and leads by a long curve to the South Gate, after crossing the stone bridge upon which, at midnight on the 15th day of the first month, the Koreans go to walk, to preserve themselves from rheumatism throughout the year. The book-shops are not far from this stone bridge, being thus established in proximity to the five or six houses of two stories which are the seat of the most important corporations of merchants; to the bazaars, rectangular courts surrounded on the four sides by narrow and gloomy shops in which are sold curios and *objets de luxe*, and to the central square, the soldiers, in their black and red felt hats and blue garments, arguing, abusing and knocking each other about, the bullock drivers loading and unloading the sacks of grain, the tradesmen and the passers-by with their hats of black horse-hair and ample white mantles, the female slaves, with bare head and hair in bands, the women of the lower classes covering their hair and face with their green cloak, bordered with red and bound with white. A little apart from the stir of this centre of activity, yet near enough to profit by the movement of those who come and go, sits the librarian, enthroned on his heels at the back of his shop, behind the sloping board whose front edge rests on the ground, a little back from the street so that customers may be in the shade while making their purchases. This librarian is a man of good appearance, who wears with his silk clothes the little horse-hair tiara reserved for the nobility, who smokes his long pipe, while he converses with several visitors seated near him, and who does not disturb himself except for important purchasers. He would blush to put on show those common low-priced volumes which are written in the Korean language—if he has any of them, they are relegated to a corner. Those which he exhibits are books in the Chinese language, new copies of the classics, second-hand works of the most diverse character, some recent and some ancient, some printed and some in manuscript; sometimes common enough, and sometimes royal editions, in fine lithography, of large size, on strong and tough paper of a faint ivory tinge, recalling the imperial paper of Japan. For the rest, the binding is always the same as in the common books, only the yellow paper of the cover is finer, the fly-leaf is of unprinted paper: red thread is *de rigueur*.

The only exceptions are a few manuscripts covered in yellowish white paper and sewed with blue or green thread.

Besides the shops there are also reading-rooms or circulating libraries where for the most part the books are novels and songs in the *En-mun* [*i.e.* native script], some printed and some in manuscript. Occasionally, however, finer copies of the better class of books may be found in these libraries than in the shops. The books are lent out for a very small sum, and as the borrower frequently neglects to return them, a deposit is sometimes

demand-ed either in money or in kind. Formerly frequent enough in Seoul, these circulating libraries are even there becoming less common, and the author has never heard of any outside the Capital, even in large towns, such as Song-do, Tai-ku and Pyeng-yang. The trade is considered an honorable one, and as such is sometimes adopted by the broken-down nobility. It is not lucrative, and owing to the carelessness spoken of in returning books the stock rapidly diminishes, so that on inquiring for a book from the catalogue it is but seldom forthcoming; nevertheless, the author has found these catalogues of great use in furnishing the names of many of the books found in this work, with a good number of which he was afterwards able to make himself better acquainted.

The author gives the following account of the origin of his work.

During the sojourn of two years which I made at Seoul, my curiosity having been awakened by all these books upon which European works no less than foreign residents could give me only very meagre particulars, I began by examining those in the possession of M. C. de Plancy, Commissaire du Gouvernement Francais, which he has since presented to the Bibliotheque de l'Ecole des Langues Orientales. Getting the taste by these first researches and encouraged by the kindly counsels of my chief, I pursued my investigation; most of the shops in Seoul were ransacked, the stocks of the libraries passed beneath my eyes. I bought some of those which appeared most interesting and took exact notes on the others. I had recourse also to the foreign residents, almost all of whom showed the greatest eagerness in allowing me to consult the works in their hands; Koreans lent themselves less easily to my quest, nevertheless it is to some of them that I owe the sight of some very curious books. Under these favourable circumstances I made acquaintance with a large number of works, of which several are rare and now almost unobtainable. May it be permitted me here to offer my thanks to all those whose aid has proved valuable for this work, and especially to S. G. Mgr. Mutel, Vicaire Apostolique of Korea, whose kindness has furnished more than one particular, and who, since my departure from Seoul, has been good enough to search out for me several works which I had not been able to see during my stay there.

During a leave of absence spent in Europe the author visited several important collections of Korean books; at Paris, that of the Bibliotheque Nationale, which dates from the expedition of Admiral Roze in 1866; the collection formed in 1888 by M. Varat, to be found to-day in the Musée Guimet; at London, the valuable collection in the British Museum. In these places special facilities were granted to him of which he makes suitable acknowledgement. M. G. von der Gabelentz was good enough to give him the catalogue of his private collection. Unfortunately it was impossible to obtain the list of the collection at St. Petersburg, the books there not having then been classified. Finally in Tokio, at the book-shops, at the bonzerie of Zo djo,



and at the library of Ouyeno, he found works of interest which he had not been able to consult in Korea.

I have not limited my work to the volumes which it has been given me to see, but have included in it the nomenclature of those which I have found mentioned in the books consulted in the course of my researches. The collection of statutes and regulations, various works, historic and geographic, have made known to me a large number of titles; the Catalogue of the Royal Library at Seoul, of which M. C. de Plancy succeeded in procuring a copy, considerably enriched my list.

For the Chinese books which have taken root in Korea his chief authority was the catalogue of the Imperial Library at Peking; on Buddhism, the catalogue of the Tripitaka of M. Bunjiu Nanjio; on Taoism and popular belief, a work by P. Hoang.

The difficulty of ascertaining with any degree of certainty the dates, names of authors and places of publication is as great in Korean as in Chinese literature.

These names, post-names, surnames, pseudonyms, titles of nobility and posthumous designations are used indifferently to indicate him to whom they belong. Sometimes also one speaks of a functionary by employing the name of his office, or if he is dead, the office which he filled during his life, or that which has been accorded him after his death. If it is rare that two Koreans have the same name and the same post-name similarities of pseudonyms are less rare, and that of titles of nobility or otherwise, are very frequent. The same confusion reigns among Chinese names; and very often the different designations of a Korean may also be applied to a Chinese *et vice versa*. As there exists no work at all complete or methodical for disentangling this chaos, it is only by means of reading and of notes that one is able, with some degree of success, to collate the names which apply to any particular person and to reconstruct his individuality.

The same difficulty applies to the names of places, and dates are even more difficult to determine. The cyclic characters, the ten celestial trunks, the twelve terrestrial branches, all have been borrowed from the Chinese.

These characters form between them sixty combinations which succeed each other in a fixed order and are applied to the successive days, months, and years, from a given point of departure. If one knows, for example, the cyclic characters of any year, he will thereby know its rank in the sexagenary cycle of years; it remains to know what cycle is referred to,

and the indications on this point are often so vague as to leave the whole matter very doubtful. The author gives examples of the confusion inevitably arising from these circumstances and mentions that while Korean official works, and many non-official ones, employ in their dates, the name of the Chinese reign, which greatly simplifies matters, others, only grudgingly acknowledging the Manchu dynasty, which was recognised by Korea in 1637, still retain, thro loyalty to the Ming family

which rendered such great service to their country, the period Tsung chen (崇禎) when the last emperor of Chinese birth reigned.

In giving such copious details of the authorities consulted by the author, his method of work and the difficulties with which he has had to contend our object has been to illustrate the magnitude of the work he has undertaken and carried to so successful a conclusion as well as to show the great obligation under which he has laid every student of Korean literature and history.

In a subsequent paper we hope to touch on other points of great interest.

A. H. KENMURE.



## DISEASE IN KOREA.

## II.

**M**ALARIA is after all perhaps the most common disease in Korea. It is found in all parts of the country, but seems to be especially prevalent in sections where there are numerous rice fields. This is doubtless owing to the presence of stagnant water and rich alluvial deposits, which constitute a suitable home for the development of the malarial poison. I presume all the varieties of this disease that are found in other countries occur here, but we chiefly seen quotidian, tertian, and quartan intermittent forms and often remittent with paroxysms occurring once or twice a day. Of all these by far the greatest number of cases belong to the quartan type, that is, the patient has two days of rest between the paroxysms.

A peculiarity I have noticed is that for a few weeks there will be a majority of cases of, say, tertian ague, and then these will nearly cease and nearly all the cases will be quartan.

A peculiarity in form of speech is that when the ague is quartan the patient nearly always distinguishes it by the proper terms, but otherwise he is apt to give it the general term malaria; another is that a patient often says he has quartan ague and when asked on what days he has the chills, he surprises you by saying he has them every day, but when he sees you are puzzled he explains that originally he had quartan ague but now the chills come every day. I have observed that in by far the greater number, the chills occur in the evening rather than at other times in the day.

The people have learned the value of quinine as a remedy for this disease and the demand for it is very great, especially during the fall and winter months. It is a pity to have to say that a great deal of stuff resembling quinine in appearance and taste, but without its efficacy, is imported and sold to the people in the interior.

Smallpox is nearly always present to a greater or less extent, altho every few years it breaks out in epidemic form. Nearly all adults and children over eight or ten years old show its scars—indeed so sure are the children to have it that the mothers scarcely think it worth while to count as a member of the family a child who has not yet had smallpox, lest it should

prove in vain to have counted it in. The prevalent idea concerning smallpox is that it is caused by the presence of an evil spirit known as *mama* which enters into the child and produces the symptoms: hence no medicines are given, but instead, sacrifices are offered and great homage is paid to the subject of the disease, by frequent prostrations, the use of honorific language and the offering of food, flowers, and money, in the hope of pleasing the spirit and prevailing upon it not to destroy the child. After a certain number of days the spirit, if pleased with the homage done, takes its departure and the child recovers, otherwise death takes place. This spirit's home is not in Korea but in China and it only leaves home and comes here when it wants a change in its food and this accounts for the coming of the disease in epidemic form. The general belief in this spirit is the cause of their not consulting the foreign doctor for this sickness. In nearly four years I have been summoned to see smallpox only twice and that was just when death was about to take place. A short time ago I was examining a candidate for admission to our Girls' School, who altho twelve years old stated she had not had smallpox. When I expressed my surprise her mother said she was vaccinated when an infant and the wonder was thus accounted for. The use of vaccination is becoming much more common and it is to be expected the result will be as it has been elsewhere, a great diminution of scarred faces and an increased number of children in the families of the people.

Leprosy, altho not *very* common in Korea, is still fairly prevalent in the southern provinces. During a stay of six weeks in Fusan I saw a goodly number of these unfortunates, who came to the hospital looking for help. Here in Seoul the number is not so great, as there are practically none except those that wander up from the south. To say there are none would be too much as I have seen one from Song-do who has always lived there and who belongs to a well-to-do family. I also saw one man who lives within ten miles of Seoul who says he never lived anywhere else. This disease occurs here in all the forms described in the text-books. It makes very slow progress as a rule and I believe many of its victims are carried off by other intercurrent diseases rather than as a direct result of its presence. The fact that it spreads so slowly, if indeed, it be at all on the increase, is fairly strong evidence of the very slightly contagious character of the disease.

As in other countries, so here, the great enemy of health is the tubercle bacillus whose victims, as might be expected from the smallness of the houses, the want of ventilation, and the absence of sanitation, are indeed very numerous. All parts of the



body are invaded by this little germ, producing many forms of disease. Our clinics are full of cases due to its ravages, amongst which are enlarged and suppurating glands, chiefly of the neck and axilla, bone and joint diseases, and consumption. This latter is even more difficult to treat here than at home, for we can secure none of the helps that are available there, and so I always regard them as hopeless, unless they come very early and have the means of getting good food and good attention. Tubercular and joint diseases are very common and give us a good deal of trouble and in not a few cases prove too stubborn for our methods of treatment; but, on the whole, we get fair results when the patients yield themselves freely to the use of knife and scraper. I might instance the case of a man whose knee from previous inflammation had become flexed and ankylosed. We excised the whole knee, treated as a compound fracture, and secured union of the cut ends of the bones; he obtained a stiff but straight leg which enabled him, having come in on his haunches, to go out in an upright position. This one case, however, cost us an entire year of treatment, including the free use of nourishing food in order to overcome the tubercular infection. He returned some months afterwards to see us, having walked thirteen miles in one day without the use of even a walking-stick. A very good result, but obtained at great cost, seeing it had all to be done by hospital funds. Another case was that of a young lad who was unable to stand, because the ankle bones of both feet were softened by tubercular disease. Removal of nearly all these bones by two or three different operations resulted, in the course of months, in his walking first with crutches and now for more than a year, without the help of these. I mention these cases not in the way of trumpet blowing, but merely to let the home friends see why it takes so much money to run a hospital, if indeed a little over \$1000.00 gold for a year's supply of medicines, dressings, food, and fuel, for an outdoor clinic of from 7,000 to 10,000 patients and an indoor clinic of say 150 patients can be described as "much."

A great many of the cases require surgical treatment, but only a portion of those who need serious operations consent to undergo them. The list of our operations under an anæsthetic includes excision of ankle, excision of knee, excision of shoulder, excision of wrist, amputation of fingers, of arm, and of legs, excision of cancers from various places, excision of various kinds of tumors, dissection of scrofulous glands, enucleation of eyeball, &c., &c. Minor surgical cases occur every day, but these are done either without anæsthesia or with the use of cocaine. One of the commonest of these is fistula. I have sometimes wondered

why these are so frequent, but as I become better acquainted with the conditions of life here, I am inclined to the view that there are two principal causes; first, the people instead of sitting on elevated chairs sit on the floor which is sometimes warm and sometimes quite cold—the position favors congestion of the tissues of those parts with venous blood, and this is increased by the warmth of the floors or in the case of cold floors the vitality of the tissues is interfered with; the second cause is want of cleanliness of those parts by which irritation of the already congested tissues is set up and an abscess develops which, being neglected, terminates in a fistula. There are sometimes from two to four or five fistulae in one person. We discharged from the hospital, a few days ago, a man who had had seven fistulae running in all directions over the nates. We operated on him several times, each time cutting thro fistulae the combined length of which was from six to eight feet. The total length of the fistulae cut open in this case aggregated over fifty feet.

Harelip is another condition frequently seen, and most of these submit to operation. These differ in no respects from cases of harelip in other countries, and nearly always do well.

As stated above eye diseases are amongst the most frequent and the foreign doctor here secures many of his most famous trophies. The most common surgical operations on the eye are for cataract and pterygium and it is certainly a satisfaction to the doctor and patient that so many of the cases of cataract do well, enabling one completely blind to see well enough to go about easily and in some cases to read good clear print. In the homeland cases of cataract are apt to come under the observation of the eye surgeon at an early date and he operates when it has come to maturity, but here we are very apt to get them either too soon for operation or a long time after they have matured. In the first case they are sent away with instructions to return in one or more months, and they, not understanding how it will be possible to cure a man after he becomes quite blind, when you cannot cure him before then, are apt not to come back. In the second case, the more than mature cataract breaks up during the process of removal and causes a great deal of trouble before it is completely evacuated. Another difficulty may be illustrated by the case of a woman from whom I had successfully removed one cataract, and who after operation on the second eye, took off the dressing, wiped the eye with one of those green handkerchiefs which she had already used as a nasal cleanser for an indefinite time, and thus set up an inflammation which speedily destroyed this eye and then spread to the other which also was completely lost. Only a small proportion of the



eye cases suitable for operation, submit to it, as the mere mention of cutting into the eyeball generally sends them off in fear—altho nearly always with the statement they will return on a given day for operation.

Ear diseases are very numerous being in the great majority of cases the result of smallpox in childhood. The most common is suppuration of the middle ear with more or less destruction of the drum and in some cases the growth of polypi.

Nasal polypi are sufficiently numerous to warrant mention. Many of the cases have existed for years and it is amusing to see their surprise when you remove masses of flesh amounting to several ounces and then to hear their exclamations of joy as they find themselves able once more to breathe thro their nostrils. I think none of the minor operations produce more amazement to the by-standers than to see the doctor insert his forceps three or four inches into the nostril, and without being able to see what he is doing, seize something, give his instrument a few twists and withdraw a great mass of flesh.

I have been surprised that in a country, where there is so little of hurry and bustle, hysteria should appear as often as it does, but even here this peculiar disease imitator is fairly common and is just as hard to vanquish as it is in other lands. Other nervous diseases are also often seen such as epilepsy, paralysis, &c.

It will not do to conclude without a reference to the great bugbear of the foreign doctor—indigestion. A very common story is that about fifteen years ago, on the fourth day of the third moon, early in the morning, the patient ate a piece of dog meat which did not go down and after being ill for a while he got a little better but on the fifth day of the tenth moon of last year the pain returned and he would now like some medicine to make that dog meat go down. The habit of eating very rapidly such large quantities of boiled rice is responsible for much suffering along this line.

Tooth extracting is not such an important part of the doctor's work here as it seems to be in some countries, the majority of the people, excepting those who suffer from congenital syphilis, having very good teeth. We extract on an average one to three each day. I might continue much longer enumerating varieties of sickness but I have already written too much and can only say that we meet with all the usual disease of organs not mentioned above, such as heart disease, Bright's disease, bronchitis, asthma, skin diseases, hernia, diarrhoea, dysentery, whooping-cough and others of the same class.

O. R. AVISON.

## THE EMEUTE OF 1884.

(Continued from April).

AS we passed from the wide street at the Great Bell into a small alley which leads into Pak-dong, then the headquarters of the Custom House, we were suddenly surprised by hearing the rush of a mob of yelling Koreans near us and soon saw a Japanese running for dear life into one of the small streets leading into Pak-dong with the yelling mass at his heels. In spite of his efforts to escape he was soon overtaken and fell a victim to the fury of the mob, as did so many others of his countrymen during that reign of terror. We were able to proceed on our way without accident to ourselves and soon arrived at headquarters, where we received a warm welcome from our chief, Mr. P. G. von Möllendorf. Here we found also Mr. Arnous, Mr. Tong, afterwards secretary of the Chinese Legation, Mr. Mitchell, an Englishman in Seoul in the interest of a contract for wood, Prince Min Yōng Ik and a number of his friends, with some of his subordinates and about 200 soldiers.

We were thus six Europeans and one Chinaman—Mr. Tong. Six of us, including Mr. Tong, agreed to stand watch, two at a time, for our own security and that of the Prince. Before proceeding, however, let us review the events from the attack on Prince Min to the time of our arrival. When the Japanese Minister left the dinner party at the Post-Office previous to the attack on Min, he went direct to his Legation, put himself in uniform and accompanied by an interpreter—a Japanese—and an officer in charge of the guard of 150 Japanese soldiers, proceeded to the Palace, asked and obtained an audience with the King. He told him of the troubles which had broken out in the city and that he came to protect him. Most likely it was to see that the King should not escape. The battalion commanded by General Han Kin Chik was already in possession of the Palace. In this battalion served the fourteen military students who had been the first to be sent to Japan but whose career had been cut short by a recall. On their return they had joined the Progressive Party and were now holding inferior positions in General Han's battalion. They were prominent in the work of the 5th of December as we shall see.

Kim Ok Kiun was, I believe, Prime Minister at this time. He obtained the King's seals and made out orders, as if direct from His Majesty, for a number of officials to come to the Palace. They did so and fell victims to the ferocity of the then Progress-



sive Party. The first to be slain were Min Yong Mok, Min Tai Wha, the chief eunuch of the Palace, four Vice-Presidents of the Foreign Office, amongst them Cho Yong Ha, whom I knew well, and several others—in all eleven persons. Cho Yong Ha was the last to fall. He was with Mr. von Möllendorf when he received the summons and left for the Palace about 11 a.m. on the 5th of December. The murder of these unfortunate men was perpetrated by the students recalled from Japan. The victims as they arrived were ushered into a waiting-room in a building standing between the second and inner court and opposite the Audience Hall. Here they were dispatched with swords—hacked to pieces it is said—the blood and gore bespattering the floor and walls. For many years the room was kept tightly closed, for the marks of the ghastly deed still remained plainly visible.

General Han's battalion, assisted by hangers-on and Japanese soldiers, kept close guard of the Palace and only members and sympathisers with the Progressive Party were granted admittance. People outside knew that blood had been shed in the Palace but were unaware of the extent of it. On the morning of the 5th of December the Chinese Commissioner demanded entrance and audience with the King. He was accompanied by General Yuan and a guard of braves. They were refused entrance and even fired on. The Chinese General then sent in an ultimatum that unless he obtained admittance to protect the King, he would force an entrance at 2 p.m. General Yuan with 1,500 Chinese braves and some 3,000 Korean troops then marched on the Palace and did force an entrance and it was their firing we heard as we approached Seoul. Inside the main entrance they encountered a stout resistance from the Korean troops assisted by the Japanese and hard fighting took place. The Chinese forced their way towards the inner court where they believed the King to be held a prisoner by the conspirators, and the Japanese retreated slowly in order to protect their Korean friends.

The fight inside the Palace lasted about an hour, mainly in the second court. Finally the loyal troops routed the others and a general flight took place. The Japanese occupied a small compound having with them the leaders of the Progressive Party, the most distinguished being Kim Ok Kiun. They held out against the combined power of the infuriated soldiery; many had already fallen and most likely more or all would have fallen victims to the rage of the mob, had it not been for the arrival and interference of the Chinese General. He put a stop to the fighting and dispersed the Koreans thus giving the Japanese, with their Korean friends, an opportunity to escape over the walls to the Japanese Legation. Why General Yuan should have thus interfered in

behalf of the Japanese and the Korean conspirators is best known to himself, but it certainly was the saving of their lives.

As above stated this encounter began about 2 p.m., and lasted until between 6 and 7 o'clock, before the Japanese party reached their Legation. In 1890 I was able to pay a long contemplated visit to the scene of these events. It was with difficulty I obtained a peep at the room where the wholesale murder took place. The second court where occurred the hottest of the fight had many tell-tale marks. The buildings about were riddled with bullets, the marks of which were plainly visible on all sides.

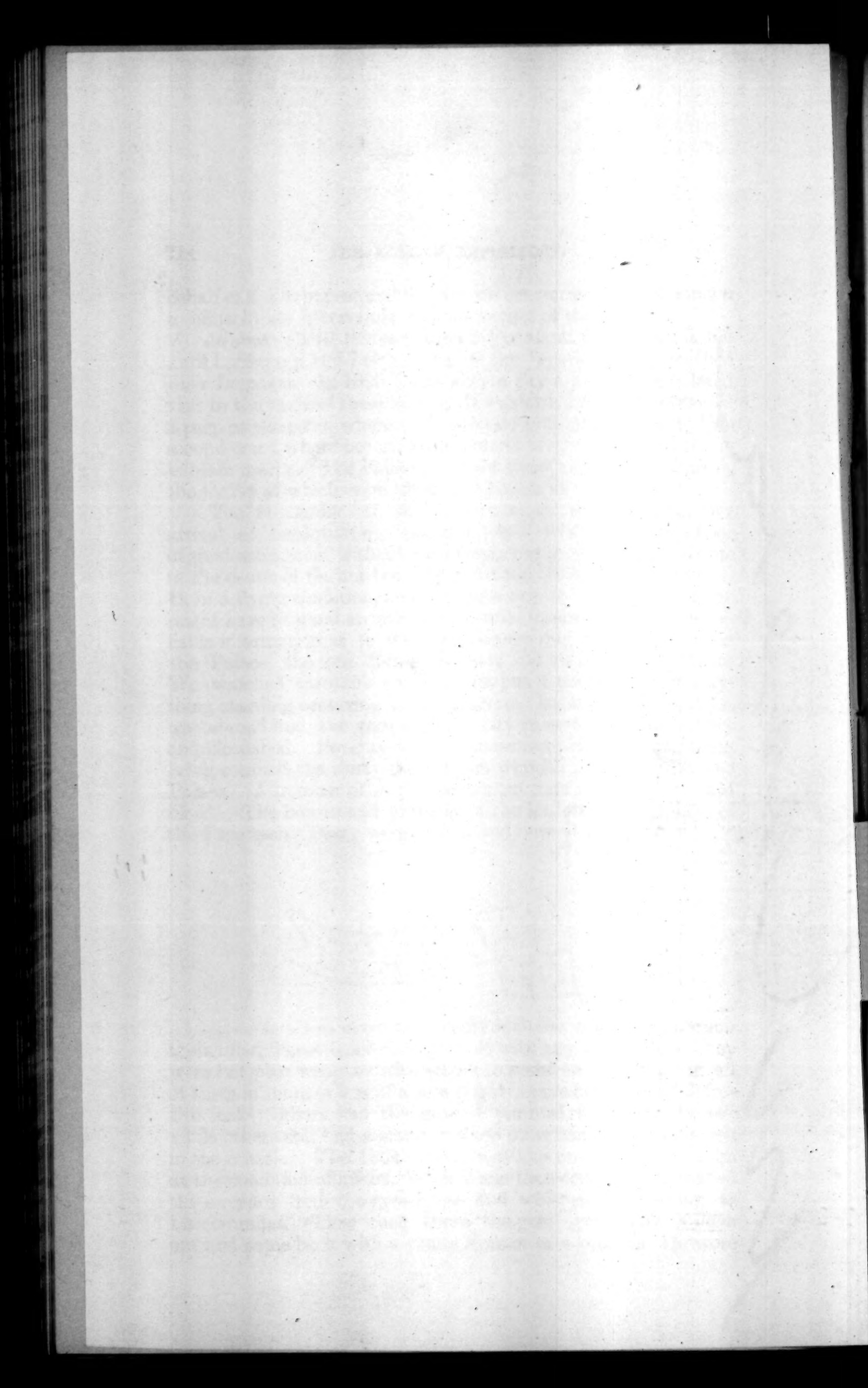
The remainder of the afternoon of the 5th after our arrival at headquarters, and the night following, was a time of great excitement without and of suspense to us within. We were in the center of the hot-bed, charged with the care of Min Yong-Ik in a dying condition, and we knew not at what moment we might have to stand an attack. It was impossible to obtain reliable information as to what was transpiring in the city, or in the Palace, tho our Korean soldiers did all they could for us. We watched thro the entire night, but it passed without anything startling occurring in our quarters. Insurrection, however, was abroad and the people in the city passed the night in riot and bloodshed. Seventy-four Japanese were killed, among them being counted the thirty-five soldiers who fell in the fight in the Palace. A number of Japanese women were murdered in cold blood. The houses and property of the leaders and members of the Progressive Party were sacked and burned and the homes of sympathisers and suspects attacked and looted and the inmates when captured were murdered. In fact the peaceful Koreans (as I always called them and even call them so now) were, in a few hours, changed into furious, bloodthirsty, wild beasts. About the city in various places fires were seen to rage, and above the noise of destruction was heard the howls of the mobs crying, "Blood, blood, let us have the blood of the Japanese."

The 6th of December dawned. I was on watch from 4 to 8 a.m. At daybreak I was in the front court with the soldiers inspecting their rifles. These failed to inspire me with any confidence. They were but poor weapons with which to resist an attack, being all of them in more or less of a sore plight. Some of them had defective locks; others had the ramrod jammed down the barrel; while others still had a stone or some other kind of a plug stuck in the muzzle. Tho the time was a serious one, I had to laugh at the condition of affairs. While I was thus occupied, out rushed the sergeant from the gate-house and whispered something to his comrades. They then threw the gate open, made a dash out and came back with a young Korean as a prisoner. He wore



"During the forenoon," &c.

Mr. Mörsel has fallen inadvertently into an error here. Dr. Allen was in attendance upon the Prince in less than an hour after the assault on the night of December 4 th. [Ed. K. R.]





a military cap and a long blue padded overcoat; before I knew what they were up to, they had torn off his coat, exposing a military uniform and a sword. One man got him by the topknot while the others kicked him down into the gutter and the sergeant drew his sword to kill him, when I interfered. I made them bring in the prisoner and bar the gate, and then reported the affair to Mr. von Möllendorf. A subordinate of Prince Min questioned the prisoner, after which a squad of our men escorted him to some place of confinement in the city. Whether he reached his destination or not I do not know, but I suspect his life was short after leaving our place for it was found that he belonged to General Han's battalion, having come to find out what was going on and whether Min Yong Ik was still alive.

The would-be murderer of the Prince got away. Whether Korean or Japanese it has never been ascertained. He was dressed, so it was said, in Korean clothes, a young man of from twenty to twenty-four years of age, rather roundish dark complexioned face, short cut hair, medium size and wore a long padded coat of light blue tint. But whether this description is correct, it is hard to tell.

Shortly after the culprit, captured at our place, was led away we heard shooting and a rumbling noise in the direction of the General Post Office. A squad of our men was sent there at once but they arrived too late to stay the hand of destruction. The buildings were then about razed to the ground and so ended not only the post-office, but also the postal service. The Postmaster-General had already been killed in the fight in the Palace.

During the forenoon of the 6th of December, we found that our patient was growing worse and as his head had begun to swell it was thought best to call Dr. Allen. A messenger was sent to the United States Legation for this purpose, but General Foote refused to consent to the Doctor crossing the city as it would be dangerous unless he had a Chinese guard. But we had no Chinese guard to send, so I suggested to Mr. von Möllendorf to let me go and escort the Doctor and Mr. Laporte volunteered to accompany me, for we both had found it rather scant quarters in our compound. Our chief agreed to this, only asking us for form's sake to take a Korean guard, which we did. We passed thro the main street to Cabinet Street without meeting with anything worth relating. The streets were alive with groups of armed Koreans, some of whom inquired of our corporal concerning us and from the bright expression on their faces, I gathered that they were pleased, for they were all in favor of the King and Prince Min Yöng Ik, or better the Min family.

At the United States Legation we found General Yuan and

an escort accompanying the Chinese Commissioner who had come to call on General Foote. We also met Messrs Townsend, Hallifax and Bernardo, all armed to the teeth. We made known our mission and the Doctor was at once ready to accompany us. On arrival at our quarters he attended to the Prince immediately. I was admitted to lend a helping hand and discovered for the first time how sorely the Prince was wounded. It was a miracle that he ever recovered, yet in a few days under the skillful treatment he was now receiving his wounds began to heal.

In the meantime we had kept a constant watch on the Japanese Legation which was plainly visible. From time to time we could hear shouting over there, and at intervals random firing. Between two and three in the afternoon, General Yuan, with an escort of 300 Chinese soldiers, arrived at our place for the purpose of escorting Min Yōng Ik to the safer accommodations of the Chinese Legation. We placed the Prince on a sofa, for lack of a better stretcher, and thus prepared him for his journey. While doing this, those on watch informed us that the Japanese had hauled down the flag at the Legation, and not long afterward we heard a whoop and the discharge of a volley of musketry. It was then that the Japanese left their Legation to make their way out of Seoul. They took the street to the rear of our premises leading past the Palace. We got on the roof and could see them moving—a long thin line composed of two single files all on foot. Soldiers led each file. The rear was brought up by armed civilians, and between the files marched the Minister, the officers in command of the troops, officers of the Legation, and some Japanese women. There were also three sedan chairs in the line. Some said there were four chairs, but I saw only three. These were occupied by Kim Ok Kiun, Pak Yōng Hyo and So Kwang Pom. If there was a fourth, I did not see it, tho when the refugees got off to Japan there were four of them. The cavalcade moved along as rapidly as possible, only now and then stopping to fire a volley down the street to clear the way. There was no obstruction to their retreat except as some one unintentionally got in their way and was either shot or cut down. Among these were some old Korean women. On arrival at the West Gate they found it barred and three soldiers who guarded it about to seek safety in flight. Two got away but one poor fellow was cut down. The Gate was soon burst open and the whole company passed out and on their way to Chemulpo, taking with them their Korean friends.

While we were thus engaged watching the march of the Japanese, the Chinese braves who had come with Yuan remained under arms outside our gate with the Prince, who for the moment



was left to himself. Some stray bullets of the Japanese, who kept on firing as they marched in our rear, came into our compound. As soon as the last fugitive had passed from sight, General Yuan gave the order to his braves to march, and with them and the Prince went all our Korean guards. Their departure did not trouble us much, tho the premises which had before been so animated became somber and silent, and to the general gloom was added a dull and heavy sky and lowering weather. The only interest now was in watching developments at the Japanese Legation. About half an hour after the Japanese got out of the city. Korean soldiers came running madly after them, dragging two Gatling guns. They were in the same dilapidated condition as the firearms I had examined in the morning. One had lost the handle with which the gun is worked, and for ammunition they had blank cartridges! Our watch on the Japanese Legation was soon rewarded. Smoke was seen to issue from the first story windows, and as we had not discovered any attempt on the part of the Koreans to enter and loot it, we naturally surmised that the Japanese themselves had kindled the fire before leaving. The fire worked its way to the upper part of the building, and by five the entire building was on fire, flames bursting forth from every window in the structure. It began to snow as darkness set in, the whole presenting a scene never to be forgotten—the storm, darkness spreading over the city, the building wrapped in flames, the deathlike silence which seemed to have fallen over the people, broken only by the sound of bursting cartridges which had been stored in the doomed building. By seven in the evening the structure had been reduced to a burning pile. None of the Koreans dared approach it for fear of the bursting cartridges and on account of a rumor that the place had been mined and might blow up at any time.

From this tableau we turned to something more substantial for we could not exist on sightseeing. But food was scarce then, and we had been from the very first on scant rations. That evening meal for seven hungry persons in good health consisted of one boiled chicken and half a dozen crackers. I hope the reading of this bill of fare will not make the readers hungry. Mr. P. G. von Möllendorf, who up to the time of the assault on the Palace had worn the Korean official costume, now once more assumed the European garb. He called on General Foote and Consul Aston to consult with them as to the best course to pursue, but the result was unsatisfactory. The fact is they wanted him to leave the city before any steps were taken, and tho at first not inclined to go, he finally decided to leave, thinking it would benefit the King. He duly notified His Majesty of his intention

to leave in the morning and asked for a trustworthy guard to take charge of the premises. About 10 p.m. the second eunuch came to consult with him and did not leave until nearly midnight. Shortly afterward a detachment of 200 of the Palace Guard arrived and after the commanding officer had reported himself, sentries were stationed and the premises began again to show signs of life. The snow-storm had stopped and the clouds were breaking, lifting the gloom somewhat off the darkened, silent city. Everything was tranquil once more and no one would have thought it possible that bloodshed and wholesale murder had happened so soon before.

We now began preparations for our own departure. Mr. Laporte and myself had little to attend to, for we were always ready to march, but none of us were left idle. Among other things there were some cases of sycee, but as it was not deemed safe to carry them as they were, we made saddle-bags out of blankets and loaded them on the ponies. We had three ponies for seven men. The sycee was loaded on the ponies and the men marched. We started for Chemulpo between 4 and 5 a.m. on the 7th of December. After leaving Pak-dong we followed the road taken by the Japanese the day before, being escorted as far as the Gate by a guard of thirty of the men sent from the Palace. The city was quiet and somber and the events of the preceding days seemed like a dream. Our guard left us at the Gate and from there we wended our way thro the snow and over frozen ditches to Mapu. At the river there was some delay, but we finally got boats and were landed on the sands on the other side. By this time day had dawned with a glorious sunrise.

The day was bright, clear and frosty. At 8 a.m. Mr. von Möllendorf began to show signs of exhaustion, and after crossing the sands as far as Blind river, we were obliged to leave him behind in a small Korean house. Mr. Tong and a Korean servant remained with him and we agreed to send a messenger for chairs to Chemulpo, as soon as possible. The rest of us proceeded on our way and managed to reach Oricol. Here we were in hopes of refreshing man and beast, but such was not our luck. The Japanese in their retreat had looted everything they could lay their hands on, and what they didn't get the villagers had carried off to the hills. We succeeded in getting three eggs and a little rice which we divided among five men. Our ponies fared better. Mr. Mitchell, who had begun to show signs of fever before reaching Oricol, grew worse and we should have been compelled to leave him here had it not been for the generosity of a mounted soldier—and five silver yen. These induced him to lend his horse, and Mr. Mitchell thus mounted started on ahead for Chemulpo.



From Oricol I wrote a note to Mr. Stripling at Chemulpo explaining the state of affairs and asking him to send chairs and ponies to our chief, Mr. Möllendorf, at the place where we had left him. This I dispatched by a Korean who was induced to go for a liberal reward and the promise of a better one if he reached Chemulpo by a given time. Captain Schultz had given out here and thought of remaining behind, but when we were ready to go, he concluded to come along too. As we neared Chemulpo, it grew colder and began to freeze hard. Six miles out we missed our "Coast Inspector" and retracing our steps found him sitting against an embankment asleep. We compelled him to get up, and sighting a man with an ox and pack-saddle we "induced" him to loan the ox, and the Captain to mount this bovine steed, and thus we started again for Chemulpo.

By dusk we were close to Chemulpo, and at the place where the road divides over to Hwa-do, we saw a squad of Japanese soldiers advancing along the main road. Being in no humor to be stopped and questioned, we took the road to Hwa-do and soon arrived at Mr. Stripling's home. We did not find our Commissioner at home, but we did his servant, and a couple of loaves of bread and something with which to wash them down. Having duly refreshed ourselves, we went to the Custom House and reported ourselves about eight o'clock in the evening. We handed over the sycee, and being released from duty, I left to seek my home. At the Custom House great excitement prevailed, the place looking like a general lodging-house. The personal belongings of the staff, including clothing, cooking utensils, etc., were piled about and all the European residents, except my wife, were sheltered there. I found her at home taking care of the house, not having been persuaded to leave her post.

Thus ended the *émeute* of 1884. With the departure of the Japanese from Seoul, quiet was restored. The King issued an edict to his people to be peaceful and to follow their usual occupations, and like dutiful children they responded to his wish.

F. H. MÖRSEL.

## HISTORICAL NOTES ON THE REIGNING DYNASTY.

(Continued from the April number.)

22 = Great King *Chin Chong Ou-yang*.

The monarch to receive this title was Prince Kyōng-wi, first son of the 21st King and the chōng-bin Lady Yi. He was made Sa-do Sé-ja (Crown Prince Sa-do) but died at the age of ten years. The succession then fell to his brother who became Crown Prince Chang-hōn. As before noted this Prince was executed, which threw him, personally, out of the line, and by command of the reigning King, *Yōng-jong*, his (Chang-hōn's) second son was transferred into the line, being recorded as the son of the dead Prince Sa-do. He was commanded further to place in the list of kings, on his succession, the name of Sa-do, with appropriate titles. This was done. Then occurred another measure, demanded by the oriental sense of the fitting and proper. They were confronted by the following condition of affairs. Here was a prince who died before he had known the privileges of lawful wedlock, and yet was listed in history as the father of a prince who had succeeded to the throne. To solve such a problem, a consort was found for the deceased royal lad in the person of Lady Cho. A post-mortem marriage took place, and she became the queen of a monarch whom she had never known, and who had never reigned, and the mother of a son whom she had not borne. She died aged 37 years, received the posthumous title of *Hyo Syun Wang-lu* and is buried with her husband in the *Yōng Neung* at Pa-ju.

23 = **종종문송대왕** Great King *Chong-jong Mun-song*.  
1776—1800.

We now enter upon the actual succession to King *Yōng-jong*, the 22nd reign being a purely honorific one as above noted. King *Chong-jong* (for whose genealogy see note on previous reign) was a religious man noted for his devotion to the state cult. The annals of some of the years of his reign contain little beside memoranda of royal pageants to mausoleums and famous shrines, and the celebration of sacrificial rites. He introduced some changes into the ceremonial customs, and in 1777 prohibited the *mu-dangs* (female shamans) from entering the walls of Sōul. This soon



became a dead letter. He felt some of his unfortunate father's ardent love for Korea, and delighted in the nation's history. Daily the courtiers were commanded to read to him from both the *Tong Kuk Tong gam* (a general history of Korea) and the *Kuk Cho Po-gam* (an official history of the reigning dynasty), and in 1782 he caused the latter work to be revised and brought down to date. He also erected stone tablets to the memory of the worthies of Korean history.

Korea at this time entered upon a period of ill fortune. There were disastrous floods in 1782, and many lives were lost. This was followed by a year of drought and crop failures, and rumors of wholesale death in the provinces caused the appointment of a commission of investigation. This commission reported against government relief, because the death rate from distress, up to the time of the investigation, was an average of only three persons for each prefecture. The next year, 1783, was a continuation of bad fortune and government relief was ordered. The royal bounty was discriminating, the King making the following contribution from the privy purse, *i.e.* 1000 ounces of silver; 20,000 strings (1000 each) of cash; 500 measures of pepper; and 1,000 catties of medicine. There were many disastrous fires, one in 1786 destroying 400 houses in that part of Söul now occupied by foreigners. This reign records two fearful ravages of smallpox, at that time the people apparently not being inoculated with the disease as at present. In fact this is probably its first historic appearance.

King *Chong-jong* instituted a commission of investigation as to the condition of the prisons throughout the realm. As a result, abuses were indicated and prohibited; penalty more clearly defined and the imposition of punishment restricted. It was further ordered that the prisons should be regularly cleansed and food supplied to the prisoners. A further beneficent measure was that of encouraging the culture of the mulberry tree. One likes to contemplate what might have been possible to the Koreans along commercial lines, had the people fallen in with the plans of their enterprising ruler and made Korea a silk producing country.

In 1786 an international complication came to a head which illustrates how sturdy was Korea's defense of her rights at times. The Chinese from earliest times had been inveterate pouchers on the teeming fisheries of Whang-hai and Pyöng-an. A colony of these poachers had gone so far as to seize the island of Shin-do, a part of the Pyöng-an province, making it their permanent abode. There were constant collisions between these folk and the Koreans. Finally the King in this year (1786) sent a force against the Chinese, drove them away and burned their

habitations. Another noteworthy event was the discovery in Kang-dong of the grave of the Prince of the Altar, Tan-gun. No people is free from religious fads and one of the fads of Korea is the quest of the grave of Tan-gun, and we are informed that so many graves of this prince have been discovered, they are sufficient to supply a whole dynasty.

In 1790 the requirements of the Competitive Military Examination were raised from six to eighteen exercises. The additional twelve were those which the clever *Chang-hön* had rendered famous by his skill. We have in this measure a possible hint of what would be only natural—the desire of a son to honor the memory of an unfortunate father.

It was about this period that Christianity was first introduced into Korea by Korean converts to Roman Catholicism. This faith has maintained an unbroken existence through a gloomy dawn, bloody storms of persecution, and the sunshine of a later prosperity. The national records, however, are silent at this time concerning this event. They make much, however, in the year 1790, of the birth to the King, by the royal concubine Pak, of a prince who became the King's successor. Ten years later we have the investiture of the lad with a hat—the badge of manhood—and his nomination to the throne by the father. This was timely, for in the sixth moon (1800) the King fell seriously ill. The young prince was untiring in offering sacrifices at the ancestral shrines and to the spirits of air, mountains and water, to save his father, but in vain. On the 28th of the sixth moon, the King died and six days later, the young prince was proclaimed King.

The consort of the 23rd monarch was Queen Kim, a daughter of a counselor of the Prime Minister. She survived the King until 1820 when she died aged 69 years. Her posthumous title is *Hyo-cui Wang hu* and she is entombed with the King in the *Kön Neung* at Su-wön. King *Chöng-jong* had two sons and two daughters.

24=Great King *Sun-jo Son-ho*. 1800—1834.

This monarch was the second son of the preceding King, his mother being the royal concubine Pak. He was proclaimed King at the age of ten years and in accordance with the custom from the early days of the dynasty, one of the first measures of his reign was the despatch of an embassy to China, to announce his father's death and his own succession. He also voluntarily emancipated a large number of royal slaves, destroying by fire outside the West Gate, the papers which held them in bondage. This act was followed by one of intense historic interest to us—the first persecution of Christianity in Korea. As



before noted, Christianity entered Korea during the preceding reign. Its spread was such as to alarm the authorities, and while it is possible that alarm for the state cult may have animated the persecution, it is more probable that it was fear of a repetition of the Roman Catholic uprisings in Japan of the previous century, envenomed by the Chinese hate which had taken the place of the favor once shown Jesuits. I give here a translation of the entire passage in the *Kuk-jo Po-gam*, acknowledging, *en passant*, the kind assistance afforded me in making it, by H. B. M. Vice-Consul, W. H. Wilkinson, Esq.

"The Western Learning had spread widely among the people, so measures were inaugurated to hoe them out like weeds. Those who were most zealous in propagating and most deeply saturated with the infection were decapitated, while those who relented were released. Orders continued to be issued to the provincial authorities to enforce a strict prohibition, and the preparation and forwarding of a regular monthly report became the rule. Chu Mun Mo was a Chinaman originally of Sö-jo (Soo-chow). He managed to sneak into the country in the train of the Imperial Commission and actively propagating the cult, deluded a number of men and women. Orders were handed down to the military authorities to sever Chu's neck by the *hoi-si* process, as a warning to the folk. Whang Sa-Riong who was dyed with the abominable teaching was the one who invited Mun to remain and propagate it. Upon the arrest of Mun, Whang became alarmed for his own safety and absconded. He then conceived an outrageous plot. He wrote a letter inviting sea-boats (men-of-war) and foreigners to invade Korea. His infamous schemes were out of all comparison with those of ordinary scoundrels and the penalties of high treason were declared against him."

Thus succinctly are recorded the events of 1801. It shows that there was a large following, the names of the leaders are given and the desperate measure of the Korean head of the church in appealing to foreign intervention. So rigorously were these measures carried out that apparently the propaganda was stamped out.

The year 1802 was marked by the marriage of the King to Lady Kim, a relation of a former Queen. The King at this time was 13 years of age. In 1803 a royal edict proclaimed the following eight precepts as morally authoritative; (1) Reverence heaven. (2) Love the people. (3) Observe the sacrificial rites. (4) Be filial. (5) Observe frugality and economy. (6) Fidelity in official life. (7) Be frank. (8) Have regard for the penalties. The first two of these are the double couplet *Kiöng-työng ai min* which to the Koreans has always summarized Christianity. The King was indebted for them to the very cult he branded as infamous and strove to destroy.

From 1803 to 1811 there is little of importance to record. Disastrous fires occurred in the provinces; the incidents attending the decease and entombment of the Dowager Queen Kim, consort of King *Yong-jong*, occupied the attention of the people

for a time; the *Kuk-jo Po-gam* was revised and brought up to date; and in 1806 the entire nation was frightened by such terrible omens as thunder out of season and a white raven. Considerable retrenchment was ordered in the expenses of the court in 1808. In 1811 there is record of an embassy to Japan in the second moon, tho for what purpose is not stated.

In the winter of 1811, the country was plunged into bloody civil war, which lasted for six months and was of such a threatening character that the suppression of it has given the King a place among the *jo* monarchs. In the 12th moon, 1811, a Korean of the Pyōng-an province, named Hōng Kvonḡ-nai, raised the standard of revolt and with a force of turbulent country folk attacked and seized the city of Kasan. A number of the inhabitants were killed, among them being the prefect who was struck down while fleeing away. From Kasan the insurgents spread their conquests to the west and north and great consternation was felt in Sōul. A force of metropolitan troops was ordered to proceed against them and their commander was given the *Sang Pang Keun*, or sword of viceregal authority. By this time the rebel chief had so prospered that declaring himself King, he opened a court in the ancient city of Chōng-in, holding civil service examinations and conferring degrees and civil office upon his followers. Foraging parties plundered all territory refusing to acknowledge him, and an attack was made on the large city of An-ju. The royal authorities in the prefectures raised levies and came to the relief of the besieged people of An-in and in a pitched battle the insurgents were defeated and driven back to Chōng-in. News of this victory greatly reassured the royal court, and the King issued a proclamation to the metropolitan troops chiding them for tardiness in suppressing rebels who fled before the raw levies of backwoods prefectures. A palliative was sent with this rebuke in the form of pay, supplies and honors, ante- and post-mortem. On the return of Hong to Chōng-in, he marched against an uprising of royalists in the prefectures to the west and was again defeated. Besieged finally in Chōng-in by the metropolitan general Yu, mines blew breaches in the walls of the city, an entrance was effected and after a bloody hand-to-hand fight the rebels yielded. Hong was among the captured band and was immediately put to death. On the return of the victorious soldiery to Sōul, they brought a number of prisoners with them in carts to grace their general's triumph.

In 1818 the succession was settled on the King's eldest son, then aged three years, and five years later he was invested with a hat and married to Lady Cho, one of the most illustrious ladies that ever graced the Korean throne. Gifted with great



force of character she has been to Korea all that the Empress Dowager has been to China. She survived until our day, her death occurring in 1890. Further reference will be made to her. The year 1813 was marked by uprisings in Che in (Quelpart) and in 1815 a fleet of junks with 20,000 bags of government rice was lost at sea. In 1820 occurred the death of Dowager Queen Kim, consort of the King's father. Asiatic cholera also broke out, having come from China. It raged with terrible violence, 10,000 victims being reported in 10 days.

In 1827 a new principle, before unknown, was introduced. It was the erection of a monarchy by the elevation of the young Crown Prince, then 18 years old, to coordinate power with his father. Hitherto the practice had been for the ruling monarch to retire from the throne with the title of "High King," but this was not done in the present instance, for the ruling King retained his position on the throne, simply making room for his son by his side. The young prince, thus uniquely honored, possessed much ability and was immensely popular with the people, and from this time he was the virtual ruler of the country, for his father relegated the affairs of state largely to him. In the same year (1827) Queen Cho bore him a son, who two years later was proclaimed as *Wang Sé son* or "Heir in succession to the Crown Prince."

The brilliant career of the young co-King was cut short by his untimely death at the age of 22 years. Possessing many amiable and noble qualities, his death occasioned universal and sincere lamentation, while King *Sim jo* never wholly recovered, dying four years later in 1834, aged 45 years. His consort Queen Kim lived to the age of 69 years and bears the posthumous title of *Sun-won Wang lu*. The royal couple are entombed in *Hën Neung* at Kwang-in. Queen Kim gave birth to two sons and three daughters. There was also a daughter born to the royal concubine Lady Pak.

25=Great King *Ik-jong Chè-Mun*, co-King. 1827—1830

This is the posthumous title by which the young son of *Sim-jo* appears in the line. Briefly his biographical details are as follows: Eldest son of the 24th king, born 1809, made Crown Prince 1812, married 1817 made co-King 1827 and died 1830. His consort was Queen Cho, who died 1890 and is buried with the King in the *Ju Neung* at Yang in. Her posthumous title is *Sin Chöng Wang-lu*. There was one son who succeeded to the throne as the 26th monarch on his grandfather's death.

## CONCLUSION.

The 26th reign marks the beginning of the present-day period of Korean history. The *Kuk-jo Jo-gam* ends with the joint reign of *Sun-jo* and *Ik-jong*, and of the 60 and more years, which have elapsed since then, it has been impossible to write dispassionately. These years have teemed with events of the greatest moment. In them have occurred the heroic efforts of those pioneers of Christ and civilization, the priests of the Roman Catholic Church and all their checkered history; the bitter feuds of powerful clans; the contests over the succession: the inauguration of foreign intercourse by treaty and the confusion resultant from Korea's anomalous relations with China: the rise of the progressive party, founded by *Pak Yong Hyo*, *Kim Ok Kiun*, *Kim Hong Jip*, *So Kwam Pom* and *So Chai Pil*; the repeated efforts to murder Queen *Min*, which were finally successful: the troubles of 1882, 1884 and 1894; the entrance of Christian missionaries from America and Great Britain; the war over Korea between Japan and China; the reorganization of the government by his Majesty; the exploitation of mines, the opening up of railroads and the inauguration of other commercial enterprises with foreign capital. The leading actors in nearly all these events are still alive and it is next to impossible to secure from Koreans an impartial account of them. We trust we shall be pardoned, then, if these notes are concluded with a personal mention of the monarchs who have reigned.

26 = **헌종경문대왕** Great King *Hŏng-jong* 1834-1849.

This monarch was the only son of *Ik-jong* and Queen *Cho*. He ascended the throne six days after his grandfather's death and after a reign of fifteen years died in 1849 aged 23 years. He had two consorts, the first being Queen *Kim* who died aged 16 years and received the posthumous title of *Hyŏ-lyon Wanghu*. She with the King is buried in the *Kyŏng Neung* at *Yang-ju*. King *Hŏn-jong*'s second consort, Her Majesty the Dowager Queen *Hong*, survives to the present day and resides in her own apartments in the Palace.

27 = **철종대왕** Great King *Chŏl-jong* 1849-1863.

King *Hŏn-jong* died without issue and without making a nomination to the succession. The selection fell to the senior Dowager Queen *Kim*, consort of King *Sun-jo*, whose choice fell on a great grandson of the famous Crown Prince *Chang Hŏn*, who was taken to *Sŏul* and thus became the 27th monarch. The follow-



ing exhibits his lineage.

Crown Prince Chang Hön

Prince Un Ŏn.

Chöng-gé Tai Wön Kun.

Chöl-jong Tai Wong.

The King reigned 14 years and died aged 23 years. He married Lady Kim, who survived him until 1877, when she died aged 42 years. The royal couple are interred at the *Yë Neung* at Ko Yang.

King *Chöl-jong* had one daughter by the royal concubine Pom. This young lady was married to Mr. Pak Yong Hyo, who, as the consort of a royal princess, received the title of *Keum-neung Wi*.

28=His Majesty the King. 1863—.

King *Chöl-jong* died without male issue and also without making a nomination to the succession. Queen Cho, as the senior Dowager, selected His Majesty the King who was immediately proclaimed. Like his predecessor he is a lineal descendant of the Crown Prince *Chang Hön*, as the table below will show:—

Crown Prince Chang Hön

Prince Nam Myön.

Heuk Söng Tai Wön Kun.

His Majesty the King.

Of the blood royal and fully within the line of nomination according to Korean law, the absurd story which turns up in western literature, that the Yi dynasty came to an end in 1863, is altogether without foundation. In the year 1866, His Majesty took for his consort Lady Min who died in 1895. With the tragic history of Queen Min, and the barbarous and inhuman manner in which she was hounded to death, the readers of the *REPOSITORY* are familiar. She is survived by one child, the Crown Prince, to whom the succession has been by Royal decree determined.

GEO. HEBER JONES.

## THINGS IN GENERAL.

**ANCIENT KOREAN TRAVELERS.**—There are well authenticated traditions of extensive travel on the part of Koreans in ancient times. Buddhism—a foreign cult with foreign paraphernalia—came among the Koreans inspiring them with a desire to visit the place of origin of that religion which finally became indigenous. We thus find about the middle of the seventh century the names of Koreans, Hoiyê, Sungju and Hyöntai among the pilgrims visiting temples and sacred shrines in India.

**THE MONTHS.**—The Koreans have their own ideas of the use of time and the way it slips by. The first fifteen days of the first moon are given up to a giddy whirl of oriental social life, which has resulted in dubbing that part of the year “Fleeting January.” The fifth moon, with its long stretch of unbroken monotony, is known as “Slow May.” Then comes the sixth moon with its heavy rain-fall transforming the roads into rice swamps and the paths into toboggan slides—hence, “Slippery June.” The following month is too hot to undertake anything, so the Korean race knocks off work and even the month is known as “Lazy July.” With the turn of summer, the cooling zephyrs come with a welcome “puff, puff,” to the melting Korean and to his inexpressible delight “puff” in “Puffy September.” The last month to be dubbed is October—“Sear October” it is called, an expression hiding much in meaning, noteworthy for its conciseness and embodying to the Korean the entire philosophy of the inevitable.

**A CURIOUS CUSTOM.**—The Koreans have a custom called *tanji* which seems to be peculiar to them. When death from disease or age threatens the loved ones of a Korean, in his despair he will mangle with his teeth or cut with a knife, a finger and



feed the blood to the dying person. Very often the finger is entirely cut off. This is one of the supreme acts of filial piety. What the origin of this custom was I cannot say, but the following legend was told me. Years ago a mother lay dying and her infant child, unconscious of the impending disaster, was playing at the open door. A sudden gust of wind blew the door shut on the little one's hand and badly bruised a finger. In its distress the little one crawled to its dying mother and thrust the wounded finger into her mouth. The taste of the child's blood seemed to revive her. She soon, to the wonder of every one, began to mend and finally entirely recovered. The only explanation of it was that heaven thus sent the wind to teach the Koreans a new way of manifesting filial piety.

INEBRIATION.—The habit of indulging in alcoholic beverages is wide spread among the Koreans, tho it is to be doubted if inebriation is as extensive among them as among their neighbors. The total abstainer is not the *rara avis* he is reported to be in Japan and China, while the drunken man is much more in evidence on the streets of Tokyo, and Peking, than he is in Söul. The habit of drinking intoxicating beverages, however, is well-nigh universal and it has left its impress on the language. Pithy sayings, ready-made to point the shafts of future temperance orators, are common. The unsteady gait of the inebriate, which with us is responsible for such remarks as "half seas o'er" and "the road is not big enough for him," have their Korean counterpart in "Heaven and earth are too small for a drunken man." The fact that there is no honest *quid pro quo* relation between alcoholic liquors and the price of the same is recognised, and while drink bills, like gambling debts, are usually paid, that the obligation is a doubtful one has passed into proverb: "Who thinks of paying a drink bill under three years?" The physical ruin and destruction wrought by the fire fiend is set forth in the saying, "The power of drink ruins the man," and "White whiskey makes a red face." The terrible power of the habit, once it becomes fastened on a man is fully recognised, for they say, "There is no bottom to the appetite for drink."

PRINTING BY MOVEABLE TYPES.—The Koreans claim to have known the process of manufacture and the method of use of metal types for printing for over four hundred years. This is a historical question worthy of investigation, and if true would be one of the interesting coincidences of history. Some time ago we visited the government printing office and saw some of the

types said to be somewhat ancient, and the method of using them. The types consisted of copper cubes of about three fifths of an inch. On one face of the cube was cut the character, either a Chinese ideograph or an *enmun* syllable, while the opposite face of the cube was hollowed out in concave shape. In setting these types a shallow pan was used which was first filled with a stiff, black paste. In this paste metal rules or "leads" were first laid to guide the columns, and between them the copper cubes were placed being pressed into the paste, the flanges of the concaves serving to hold the types fast. After the form is completed the "leads" are removed and the printer has in effect a copper plate. Very often the leads are left to mark lines on the printed page. This completed form is then passed from the compositor to the "pressman." The latter lays the form on the floor and sitting down to his task holds the form firmly with his feet as only an Asiatic can. He inks with a roller, spreads the paper over the inked type and takes off an impression very much as a western printer would prepare a proof. We believe this method of printing is one of the traditions which has fled before the advance of new ideas.

**HORNETS' NESTS IN MEDICINE.**—These are found in the forests, as well as near the houses of the people. For medicine those nests found on the hills are the best. They should be collected from the 7th day of the 7th moon, until the 11th or 12th moon, boiled, dried, and reduced to powder. The nests of ground wasps are also used in medicine for the cure of non-poisonous forming abscesses.

Hornets' nests are tranquilizing in nature, have an acrid, saltish taste, and are non-poisonous, altho some authorities assert that they possess slight poisonous properties. They are used for convulsions, for abscesses, for toothache, and for evil ulcers of all kinds.—E. B. LANDIS, M.D.



## EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

## RUSSIAN ASCENDENCY IN KOREA.

THE last month brought exchanges to our table giving much attention to this and cognate subjects. First, we have a letter from Mrs. Bishop in the *St. James's Gazette* and reproduced in *The Celestial Empire* of May 21st. Mrs. Bishop, as might be expected, writes with fullness and freedom. She is of the opinion that it is not well that—

The movements in this peninsula—which, in the opinion of many politicians in China and Japan, is “the storm centre of the Far East”—should be ignored as of no account. Among the changes of more or less importance which have passed over Korea in the year of my absence, and some of which are still in progress, are:—

- 1.—The extinction of Japanese influence, and the withdrawal of Japan from any active participation in Korean affairs.
- 2.—The effacement of England as a factor in the situation.
- 3.—The steadily-growing influence of Russia.
- 4.—The position occupied by Mr. McLeavy Brown, Chief Commissioner of Customs.

She thinks Japan has brought about her own downfall in Korea, on which there may well be difference of opinion. She attributes the self-effacement of England to “a policy of *laissez-faire*” and is by no means sure that this is the best policy “if certain contingencies should occur.” She is not satisfied with the rank held by the English representative here, which is that of Consul-General, “who really has no position, the British Minister at Peking being accredited to the Korean Court.” She thinks England should have a—

Minister, with a Legation guard of ten marines as a representation of force which the common people could understand. It places England in an inferior position in the eyes of all when her Legation gate is kept by an old Korean porter, by no means clean, lodged in a reed beehive or enlarged dog-kennel; while the Japanese Legation has a guard of 200 soldiers, and the Russian eighty marines and a piece of artillery.

Mrs. Bishop, who was writing while the King was still domiciled in the Russian Legation, is not at all complimentary to the administration of affairs since the King has been "freed from the control of mutinous officers and a usurring Cabinet." Her indictment is heavy and we wish we could challenge its correctness.

Never has the King made greater havoc of reigning than since he regained his freedom under the roof of the Russian Embassy.

She speaks in terms of high praise of the Russian Minister here. His official course, however, is "at present a standing enigma." This she conjectures may be due to "orders from home."

If this be the case, it may be either that Russia desires to be acquitted of all interference with Korean political affairs, or that she is giving Korea rope enough to hang herself withal, in order that in the future, interference on her part may be amply justified. Otherwise it is impossible to conjecture why so excellent a man and so capable a diplomatist as Mr. Waeber, and withal so trusted by the King, should hesitate to aid him with his valuable advice.

Aside from this, Russia's course in Korea up to the present, Mrs. Bishop thinks, is "quite intelligible." Russia is quietly getting hold of the army, tho we may say in passing, the *Mission Militaire* projected recently has failed.

Men drilled and armed by Russia, accustomed to obey Russian orders, and animated by the most intense hereditary hatred of Japan, would prove a valuable *corps d'armée* in the event of war with that ambitious and restless empire. It cannot be supposed that an officer like Colonel Poutiata will remain content with his present want of position when that of Commander-in-Chief might not unnaturally fall to his lot.

Thus far Russia has pursued a strictly opportunist policy, taking no steps except such as have been more or less forced upon her. That the Korean pear, when fully ripe will drop into her mouth, I have little doubt, but I think she will not shake the tree. If that day comes the usual result will follow. Preferential duties and other imposts will practically make an end of British trade in Korea, with all its large potentialities.

Mrs. Bishop devotes nearly half of her letter to the unique and influential position now so ably filled by J. McLeavy Prown, L.L.D. It has been our pleasure to refer in former issues to the great service Dr. Prown is rendering the country and we cannot resist the temptation to quote the whole paragraph Mrs. Bishop for a part of the time she was in Seoul on her last visit, was the guest of Dr. Brown, and we know she had access to more than one source of reliable information. The condition of the treasury, when Dr. Brown came into control, was anything but hopeful, and the opposition he is meeting with is anything but complimentary to the schemers for money.



The singular position now occupied by Mr. McLeavy Brown is the greatest surprise I have met with on this visit to Korea, and is the last subject to which I shall advert. "Throw a leopard skin over his chair; he is the second person in the kingdom," a Korean remarked; and tho this is by no means literally true, it sufficiently indicates the way in which the man who holds the purse-strings, is regarded by the Koreans. The finances were in hopeless confusion, and in the opinion of every one, and specially of the Japanese, national bankruptcy could not be staved off longer than July, 1896, without recourse to a second loan. About a year ago Mr. McLeavy Brown, out of a praiseworthy desire to help Korea, accepted, at the request of the King, the thankless and onerous post of Adviser to the Treasury, for which, however, he declines to draw any salary; and in July, 1896, obtained, by the publication of a Royal edict in the *Gazette*, the sole control of all money received or paid by the Treasury. His high honour, and singular capacity for putting finance on a sound footing, nobody doubts. Naturally, his efforts at financial reform are thwarted at every turn, not alone by the craft and cunning of corrupt officials, who incite the Sovereign to actions concerning money which are subversive of the fairest schemes of financial rectitude. Korean imagination and ingenuity are fertile only in devising new tricks and schemes for getting hold of public money; and no sooner has the Financial Adviser blocked one nefarious proceeding than another is stealthily sprung upon him.

Still, in a few months the Augean stable of the Treasury has been cleansed, and the accounts are kept with the utmost exactitude; an army of drones subsisting on public money and hanging on to all departments has been disbanded; a partial estimate has been formed of the revenue which provinces ought to produce; superfluous officials unworthily appointed find that their salaries are not forthcoming; every man entitled to receive payment, from the highest to the lowest, is paid at the end of every month; nothing is in arrears; great public improvements are carried out with a careful supervision which ensures right economy; the accounts of every department undergo strict scrutiny; no detail is thought unworthy of attention; and instead of Korea being bankrupt in July, 1896, she closed the year with every account paid and a sum of one million and a half in the Treasury.

In the opinion of the Adviser, if he were allowed a free hand, the finances of Korea could be put on a sound basis in two years, and the Japan loan could be repaid without recourse to another. But, in addition to fraud, chicane, and corruption in every department, the absence of any trustworthy subordinates, the attempts at thwarting in all quarters—every man being pledged by his personal interest, actively or passively, to oppose every effort at reform,—the infamous traditional customs, and the weakness of the King in being persuaded into reckless extravagances, such as the proposed mission to Europe, which make away with the results of retrenchments and economies, there is now a perpetual intriguing to displace this too honest Adviser, and many Koreans believe that Russia is supporting this course and will provide a successor.

"It must be England or Russia," an intelligent Korean official said to me; "and England cares nothing about Korea."

A letter also of the Special Correspondent to *The Times* covers much the same familiar ground. He regards the ascendancy of Japan in Korea as "largely one of wasted opportunities and good intentions unfulfilled; that of Russian ascendancy is its exact antithesis." Japan was impatient, self-confident, and sufficient; Russia is patient, moderate and "with infinite tact

enlists on its side every agency, however insignificant, which can be rendered subservient to its own ends. Japan made frequent changes in her Legation; Russia relied upon one man. With the utmost tact and patient waiting, the Russia representative, we are gravely informed, "attracted within the orbit of his own" every interest and policy, whether native or foreign, in Korea; and "the skill with which the British policy" was thus attracted receives special attention. Whether this representation is correct or not is of little moment to us just now.

The correspondent to the great London journal thinks the "final transfer" of His Majesty to the congenial quarters of the Russian Legation on Feb. 11th of last year, was "the crowning triumph of Russian policy."

So far, it must be admitted, Russia has used the ascendancy, which passed undisputed into her hands on that memorable day, with prudence and moderation. That her authority would be strenuously exerted in favor of progress and reform was hardly to be expected. Progress and reform are incompatible with the interests of the King and of the dominant class through which Russia prefers, for the present at least, to rule Korea. It is not surprising that in these circumstances complaints should already be rife of a general tendency to relapse into the old ruts of corruption and misgovernment, and that the little amelioration which the Japanese undeniably introduced into the Administration is gradually disappearing.

We have space to notice only one more point in this interesting communication. The Special Correspondent does not believe much in the independence of Korea, seemingly, nor in the ability of the people to govern themselves. This scepticism may be natural; it is no doubt strengthened by the reports, usually of a detrimental character, so zealously circulated about the Koreans. But we call special attention to the "agreeable disappointment" so frequently heard from those who come to Korea and give careful study to the people. They find more patriotism and sterling manhood than they expected to find. That this Special Correspondent should sneer at the Independence Arch and characterize those who organized this celebration as "singularly deficient in the sense of humor" is inconsistent, especially as coming from an Englishman and it stirs us to a vigorous protest. Hear him.

That there is any reasonable prospect of Korea's being able to stand alone and to convert her nominal independence into a reality only those endowed with a superabundance of optimism will contend. The foundation stone of an Independence Arch was, indeed, laid not long ago with some ceremony in the presence of various ministers and high officials on the spot where the King used formerly to receive the Chinese envoys from Peking; the pupils of the American missionary school sang, after a fashion, an Independence hymn written for the occasion; and the President of the Board of Foreign Affairs delivered himself of an oration on, "How to Preserve our Independence." But those who organized this celebration must have been



singularly deficient in the sense of humor. When a people has been for centuries and is still ground down under such an unparalleled system of spoliation and oppression as that which obtains in Korea, its vitality must have sunk to the lowest ebb.

One would think that here we have the very best reasons for encouraging any effort, however humble, to break away from the "unparalleled system of spoliation and oppression." But instead of encouragement there is the sneer and an ill concealed contempt. We have seen and heard this kind of stuff until we are weary and ashamed. No quarter to greed, corruption and crime; but give due credit to any and every attempt made to "stand alone and convert nominal independence into a reality." We believe it will yet be done. There is a most wholesome dissatisfaction, a hopeful restlessness in some quarters. The Gospel is accepted with a readiness and heartiness that is most encouraging. We may well hope "the fierce international rivalries which compass Korea will be stayed long enough to give her a chance."

**Royal English School Athletic Sports.**—On June 16th the boys of the Royal English School, Seoul, gave their first annual exhibition of athletic sports at Hul-yun-an near the East Gate. Nearly all the foreign residents were present by invitation, and a very large field showed that the announcement of the sports had aroused a great deal of interest in the city. The meeting was under the patronage of the Minister of Education. Mr. Willis acted as starter; the Rev. A. B. Turner and Mr. W. Du F. Hutchison as Judges.

1. 100 YARDS' RACE FOR SENIORS.

The final of this race was very well contested. The winner, Son Keung-san, got off the mark quickly and soon held a commanding lead, but his win was a lucky one, for had Yi Ho-sung (?) run straight instead of trying to force his way thro a crowd he would undoubtedly have won easily. Un Ho made a good third.

2. 100 YARDS' RACE FOR JUNIORS.

The youngsters ran pluckily and in good form, Kim Min-hei just getting home in front of Pak Yan-chang.

3. THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

The winner, Un Ho, threw in excellent form and covered eighty three yards, a distance that would do credit to any English or American school-boy of the same age—sixteen years. He

would be presumably a dangerous man in the native store-fights. Yi Piung-hung's best throw was seventy yards—creditable.

#### 4. HIGH JUMP.

Yi Ho-sung and Un Kui-yik were almost equally fancied by their school fellows for this event, but both were out of form, however, and failed at four feet five in., whilst Un Teh-gil and Pak Ho-piung succeeded in getting over half an inch higher. All jumped on fairly good form, but Yi Ho-sung looks like being the best of them.

#### 5. 200 YARDS' RACE.

There were thirty six starters for this event, which was run in two heats. The handicappers had considerable difficulties in absence of records and in presence of so many "dark horses" and at least one or two "sugarers." However, the final heat was well contested, Song Keung-san coming in with a well-sustained rush and landing himself a winner by a yard and a half.

#### 6. PUTTING THE SHOT.

The shot weighed fourteen lbs. Yi Chong-sal's put of twenty-five ft. ten in. is an extremely good one. Yi Piung-hun was a creditable second with twenty-four ft. seven in., and two others, Yi Ho-Sung and Sang Ho reached twenty-four ft.

#### 7. BROAD JUMP.

The boys by this time were evidently tiring and the winner's (Hwak Han sung) jump of fourteen ft. six in. is not particularly praiseworthy. More than one of the competitors, however, have done sixteen ft. and more in practice.

#### 8. THREE-LEGGED RACE.

This was more a scrimmage than a race but the pairs who were first and second respectively had the luck to get away clear, and a fine struggle ended in a victory for Kim In-her and Kwak Han sung by two yards.

#### 9. 450 YARDS' RACE.

The scratch man started in good form, but being out of condition tired towards the finish, and Yi Yu-kwan, who ran very steadily gained a well-deserved win by two yards. The others were close up and the handicappers congratulated themselves.

#### 10. TUG OF WAR.

Un Kui-yik's team won the first tug, but So's men retali-



ated by pulling off the second, only to be vanquished after a magnificent struggle, in the third and final pull.

11. CONSOLATION RACE.—Omitted.

12. STRANGERS' RACE.

Ten unfortunate strangers were "corralled" for this event, which ended in an easy win for Mr. Willis, the Rev. H. B. Hulbert being a good second.

13. DONKEY RACE.

This race introduced a slight farcical element into the proceedings. The donkeys exercised their vocal organs in every key except that of "Gee." When they did get started, the majority of the riders seemed unable to control the direction of their steeds and more than one animal elected to run the race by himself. However a few mokes stuck to the course and a fine finish was witnessed. The race seemed to be between two white animals ridden respectively by Cho Seung-hup and So Sang-heun, but the effort of finishing was too much for the riders and Yi Han-ju, riding with considerable judgement and coming with a fine spurt, scored a most popular victory.

At the conclusion of the sports the boys were put thro a long series of exercises, both in physical exercise and in military drill, by Sergeant Boxwell. These were beautifully executed, and the applause was constant and hearty. Among the foreign spectators were several Russian, French, German, and English officers all competent critics, and their commendations were freely expressed. Mrs. Jordan graciously distributed the prizes to winners and Mr. Jordan, H. B. M's. Consul-General, addressed a few words of congratulation to the school.

**The Diamond Jubilee.**—The British subjects resident in Seoul celebrated in various ways the sixtieth anniversary of the ascension to the throne of their gracious Queen, Victoria. Special services were held in the Church of the Advent on Sunday, June 20th, the Rev. A. B. Turner officiating. On the same day the Consul-General, Mr. J. N. Jordan, received a telegram from the Marquis of Salisbury announcing that Her Majesty had been pleased to confer upon him the "Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George." Every Britisher here rejoiced at the selection of the person for this honor. On Tuesday evening, the 22nd inst., Mr. and Mrs. Jordan entertained the whole foreign community and a large number of high Korean officials. The beautiful grounds of the Consulate were lighted

up with hundreds of colored lanterns, while above all the decorations in evergreen were the letters V. R. The fire-works were specially successful. Refreshments were served and Mr. Jordan proposed the health of the Queen which was heartily responded to by the large company. The Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, Yi Wan Yong, proposed another toast in the name of the Korean Government and its people which was responded to with equal enthusiasm.

On Monday June 28th, children of the British subjects gave an afternoon party to the children of other nationalities. It was a happy thought of some one and the little ones enjoyed the delicate attentions greatly.

On Tuesday the 29th there was a grand dinner given at the Nam Pul Koun, the place where formerly the Chinese Ambassador was entertained during his stay in the Korean Capital. The company adjourned at a late hour in the evening and thus ended the rejoicings and festivities of the Diamond Jubilee in Seoul.

**More Sympathy for India.**—*The Korean Christian Advocate* presented the needs and sufferings of India to its readers. Pai Chai School made a thorough canvass, several of the Methodist congregations in this city responded liberally, and together with contributions from several foreigners, the total collection amounts to about one 100 yen. This amount added to other contributions coming thro Korean channels makes the substantial offerings of Korean Christians to suffering India nearly 250 yen. It must at the same time be understood that these are purely voluntary gifts, made in response to representations in the three Vernacular papers, published in the capital, and from the platform. It is also due to say that some of the churches for various valid reasons have been unable to take up collections. These results are most gratifying. We thank God for this liberality.



## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Korean sarcasm,—“He is courageous—his stomach is full.”

*The Japan Times* in referring to our note acknowledging the receipt of a photograph of the beginning of work on the Seoul-Chemulpo Railroad says, “This is tangible evidence of material advance, far more valuable than endless academic discussions on ‘prestige’ or ‘influence’ of various people in Korea.”

On May 20, at the house of the groom, by the Rev. H. G. Appenzeller, Col. F. J. H. Nienstead was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Ko Furusawa of Tokyo. There was a large company present, including cabinet Ministers, the U. S. Minister and the Japanese Minister. His Majesty, with that liberality and thoughtfulness for which he is well known, remembered the occasion with several handsome presents.

We are in receipt of the April issue of the *Canadian College Missionary*, the organ of the organization which maintains Dr Hardie in Korea. This number is given up to Korea and contains some interesting instances of conversion. In it the following unique note is given publicity, which if true, is worthy of investigation and corroboration: “No Korean parent expects to raise more than a small minority of his family. Think of it, not a family but has buried *most* of the children!”

W. H. Wilkinson, Esq., H. B. M.'s Acting Vice-Consul at Chemulpo, is transferred to the Consulate at Pakhoi, South China. Mr. Wilkinson has been in Korea for nearly four years. Several valuable contributions from his pen have appeared in the pages of *THE REPOSITORY*. He will be succeeded by H. Bencraft Joly, Esq., who comes from the Pagoda Anchorage near Foochow. Mr. Joly has been successively in charge of the Consulates at Whampoa, Macao and Shanghai. Pending the arrival of Mr. Bencraft Joly and his family, Mr. Willis will have charge of the Consulate at Chemulpo.

We look forward to an interesting intellectual collision between “Our Own Correspondent” to *The Independent* from Pyeng-yang, and “The Man with A White Hat” who writes from Chemulpo. These scribes laud their respective places of temporary abode in such a self-assuring manner as would do credit to real estate agents getting up a big boom. A little while ago the former suggested that Pyeng-yang is in immediate danger of becoming the capital of the country; and now in his first communication “The Man with A White Hat” talks of the “fine bathing facilities and the stirring metropolitan life of the port,” and concludes his laudation of his place by suggesting that the name of the Seoul-Chemulpo railway be changed to the “Chemulpo-Suburban Line,” “for really Seoul is in the suburbs of Chemulpo.” Really? We thought we were in the wake of Pyeng-yang. Where are we anyway?

Bishop Corfe, head of the Church of England Mission in Korea, sailed from Hong Kong for England about the middle of May, on the M.M.S.S. *Yangtse*. He hopes to reach England about the end of June and be in time for the Lambeth Conference of Bishops. This great assembly, which is held every ten years, will begin early in July under the presidency of His Grace, the